

(21)

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/065,319

Applicant(s)

GRAF ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Mark Tsidulko

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 12/23/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,5,8-15,17,18,21-28 and 31-38.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 October 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The submission of amendment filed on 12/23/04 is acknowledged. At this point claims 1, 12-14, 25, 26, 31, 3435, 38 have been amended, claims 3, 6, 7, 16, 19, 20, 29, 30 have been canceled and the remaining claims left unchanged. Thus, claims 1,2, 4, 5, 8-15, 17, 18, 21-28 and 31-38 are at issue in the instant application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8-15, 17, 18, 21-28 and 31-38 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Referring to Claims 1 and 14 the prior art of record fails to show a bulk light diffusing material having 95 - 99.8% by weight of a polycarbonate and 0.2 - 5% by weight of light diffusing particles, wherein the particles have a refractive index of 1.43 to 1.49 and bulk light diffusing material has at least 70% of transmittance and a haze of at least 10%.

Claims 2, 4, 8-13 are allowed as claims depended on claim 1.

Claims 15, 17, 18, 21-28 are allowed as claims depended on claim 14.

Referring to Claims 31 and 35 the prior art of record fails to show a bulk light diffusing material having 95 - 99.8% by weight of a polycarbonate and 0.2 - 5% by weight of light diffusing particles, wherein the difference between the refractive index of the polycarbonate and the refractive index of the light diffusing particles is about 0.1 to about 0.16 and bulk light diffusing material has at least 70% of transmittance and a haze of at least 10%.

Claims 32 and 33 are allowed as claims depended on claim 31.

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Claims 36 and 37 are allowed as claims depended on claim 35.

Referring to Claims 34 and 38 the prior art of record fails to show a bulk light diffusing material having 95 - 99.8% by weight of a polycarbonate and 0.2 - 5% by weight of light diffusing particles, wherein the particles have poly(methylmethacrylate), hydrolyzed poly(alkyl trialkoxysilane) or combination thereof and bulk light diffusing material has at least 70% of transmittance and a haze of at least 10%.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Tsidulko whose telephone number is (571)272-2384. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 - 5.

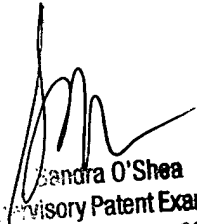
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306 for all communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

M.T.
January 18, 2005



Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800